



**U. S. Department of Agriculture**  
**Office of Information**



Release - Immediate.

**WILD DUCKS MAY BE SHOT AT NIGHT IN RICE DISTRICT.**  
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Washington, D. C.

The United States Department of

Agriculture has issued an order, effective during the period November 14 to December 31, 1919, inclusive, permitting the shooting at night of wild ducks which have become seriously injurious to rice crops in Arkansas, Lonoke, and Prairie Counties, Arkansas. The order provides that wild ducks found committing or about to commit serious injury to the rice may be shot from sunset to half an hour before sunrise during the period mentioned above on the land where the damage is being committed and where it is necessary to kill such wild ducks to protect the rice from injury. The ducks may be killed by persons owning or leasing the rice lands in the counties mentioned, or by their agents; however, no person is permitted to shoot at any wild ducks from artificial or natural blinds, nor are the ducks allowed to be killed or shot at from or in any field after the rice grown therein has been thrashed or removed. None of the wild ducks so killed may be sold, offered for sale, or shipped for purposes of sale, neither are they permitted to be wantonly wasted or destroyed, but they may be used for food purposes by the persons permitted to kill them, or they may be transported to hospitals and charitable institutions in Arkansas for use as food.

Particular attention is called to the fact that while the order issued by the department does not place a limitation on the number of ducks that may be killed at night, the law providing a bag limit for ducks killed in the daytime still prevails. Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Regulations, 25 ducks in the aggregate of all kinds is the most that may legally be taken in one day during the open season. The Federal law in this respect will be enforced.

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